

Municipality. I would therefore suggest that the Municipality be required to repay Government the above sum of Rs. 4,298, with interest at 5 per cent. in six instalments, at intervals of six months, and let the Municipality take the whole of the sale proceeds, sanad fees, &c., with the exception of the two-pie rental. I propose a term of three years for the recovery of the above sum to let the Municipality meet the instalments, as far as possible, from City Survey Receipts.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) L. R. ASHBURNER,
Revenue Commissioner, N. D.

No. 1420 of 1873.

To

L. R. ASHBURNER, Esq., C.S.I.,
Revenue Commissioner, N.D.

Surat Collector's Camp, Teethul, 29th May 1873.

SIR,

I have had the honour to receive the copy of your letter to Government, No. 2235, of 13th instant, regarding the Rander Survey, and although it has been sent to me for the special purpose of being printed, I trust that you will excuse my making the following remarks.

2. I have never in any correspondence advocated the exclusion of the pay of the Enquiry Officer on the grounds stated in para. 2, which obviously produce a *reductio ad absurdum*. What I have said was that Government having at a particular time happened, by miscalculation, to bring out a much larger number of civilians than was really required for the general business of the country, such *extra* civilians must be paid, whether they worked or did nothing (as actually happened in some cases), and that, therefore, their employment as Enquiry Officers was not an actual extra charge arising from such work which Government could justly set off against cash expenditure by Municipalities in an adjustment of account.

3. In the case of Ránder, however, I have not even alluded to the above argument, sound as it appears to me to be, but have based the exclusion of the Enquiry Officer's salary on the ground on which Government have already excluded it in the case of Surát, viz., that it was more than covered by the future gain to Government, from the right of re-assessment and resale of occupancy of lands leased for 99 years, which nowhere is shown in figures in the calculations.

4. In para. 3 I would respectfully point out that there is some misapprehension. In no town has the Municipality ever undertaken the *whole* cost of the survey in return for the sale proceeds of occupancies. In every town, and not in Ahmadabad alone, Government have paid a portion (*vide* G. R. No. 3921, of November 14th, 1867).

5. The effect, however, of the adoption of the proposal in para. 3 will be to treat Ránder on a principle radically different from that applied to every other town in Gujrát, resulting in Government being not only placed *gratis* in possession of the two-pie rental, capitalized at Rs. 11,803, but being recompensed the pay of the Enquiry Officer, whom they *must* have paid in any case owing to the excess of civilians, and whom they have not charged to any other town. It is true that in lieu of the charge of Rs. 4,298 for the Enquiry Officer, you propose to surrender the fourth of land sales, amounting to Rs. 9,708 (not Rs. 13,343, but Rs. 11,343, *minus* Rs. 1,635 for assessment capitalized), but then the former is to be paid in cash *with interest* within three years, while the latter would have accrued *pari passu* with the profits of the Municipality.

6. The original arrangements with the Municipalities were made on the principle of allowing each party to receive a certain equitable proportion of the returns. My proposal to give Government in this case one-fourth of the land sale proceeds arose from the accident that in Ránder these proceeds bore a different proportion to the remaining benefits to that in other towns, and was a mere adjustment of the inequality in justice to Government. I would very respectfully submit whether, under the above explanation, it might not be perhaps better to allow it to stand than to introduce a system which, while differing from that in force elsewhere, will hardly benefit the Municipality as desired.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) T. C. HOPE,

Collector.